



Shades and the Wiggly Tooth

A Storybook Reef original from Pediatric Dentistry of Florida



Shades woke up with a funny feeling in his smile.

Wiggle, wiggle, wobble.

One little tooth was loose!



“Oh no,” said Shades.

“Teeth are supposed to stay IN.”

He held his mouth shut tight, all the way across the reef.



The old sea turtle listened kindly.
“My shell got too small once,” she said.
“Then I grew. Growing is like that.”



The hermit crab waved a claw.
“When my shell gets snug, I find a bigger one.”
“Trading up is the best part!”



The littlest fish blew a bubble.

“Wiggly just means something new is on the way.”



So Shades gave it a try.
Wiggle, wiggle, wobble.
It did not hurt one bit. It felt like a little loose seashell in the sand.



All day, Shades played.
He raced the stingray. He tried on the diver's helmet.
He laughed so hard at the otter's joke that...



POP!

There it was in his paw. Tiny. White. Shiny as a pearl.
Shades grinned a brand-new grin, with a little window in it.



That night, Shades tucked the little tooth beneath his pillow, snug as a clam.
Outside, the waves whispered goodnight.



And do you know what?

Where the little window was, something new was already on its way.
Something bigger. Something stronger. A grown-up tooth, just for Shades.

Wiggle, wiggle, wobble. Hooray!



The Storybook Reef

Written and illustrated for the families of Southwest Florida by Pediatric Dentistry of Florida, Dr. Tim Verwest, DMD and Associates. Read all five books, and print the coloring pages too, any time you like.

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